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Washington, D.C. 20231

On January 21, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Joy M. Marshall

Attorney Docket No.: 023070-130610US

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Potts *et al.*

Application No.: 09/759,815

Filed: January 10, 2001

For: THE DETECTION AND
REMOVAL OF MICROORGANISM
CONTAMINATION

Examiner: Ralph J. Gitomer

Art Unit: 1627

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit this response with reference to the Office Communication mailed August 22, 2002. A petition for a four-month extension of time to respond from September 22, 2002 to January 22, 2003 accompanies this response.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13, 14, 15, 21, 40, 41, 42, 48 and 55-78.

Please amend claims 1, 16, 29 and 43 as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method of detecting chitinous material in a processed non-chitinous biological sample, said method comprising contacting said biological sample with a probe that is a lectin that binds chitin;